

PII: \$0040-4039(96)00973-2.

Total Synthesis of a Novel Isoprostane $IPF_{2\alpha}$ -I and Its Identification in Biological Fluids

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Abstract: The first total synthesis of IPF_{2α}-I 25 is described using D-glucose as starting material. This novel isoprostane has been used to establish its presence in human urine. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

More and more we have come to the realization that, in addition to the necessary enzymatic machinery which keeps us alive, a parallel non-enzymatic free-radical-mediated biochemical system is operative. Reactive oxygen species (ROS), such as •OH, •OOH, ROO•, •OO•, which are products and by-products of enzymatic reactions, and CH3•CHOH and CH3•CO and •CH3, by-products of alcohol consumption have been known for some time to interact with polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) to form conjugated dienes (Scheme 1).^{1,2}

Scheme 1
$$R_1$$
 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_2 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_4 R_5 R_5 R_6 R_7 R_8 R_9 R

This peroxidation process has been linked to pathological injury in diseases such as heptatorenal syndrome,³ alcohol-induced liver disease,⁴ pulmonary hypertension,⁵ myocardial infarction⁶ and atherosclerosis.⁷ Recently 8-epi-PGF_{2 α} 6, a member of a new class of products, the isoprostanes, has been identified in *in vitro* and *in vivo* systems as a product of free-radical peroxidation of arachidonic acid (AA) and has been shown to be a potent vasoconstrictor.⁸ It has also been identified as a minor by-product in the enzymatic cyclooxygenase-1 (COX1)⁹ and COX2¹⁰ peroxidation of AA. We have performed the first total synthesis of 8-epi-PGF_{2 α} 6 and its enantiomer 7,¹¹ and recently reported the total synthesis of 12-epi-PGF_{2 α} 8,¹² an isoprostane potentially formed *in vivo*.

HO OH HO OH HO OH HO OH PGF<sub>2
$$\alpha$$</sub> 5 8-epi-PGF_{2 α} 6 enantiomer of 8-epi-PGF_{2 α} 7 12-epi-PGF_{2 α} 8

Four types of isoprostanes 9, 10, 11 and 12 have been proposed as potential products of ROS-initiated peroxidation of AA.¹¹⁻¹³ They are formed as a result of an initial hydrogen atom abstraction at C₇, C₁₀ and

C₁₃ of AA. Isoprostanes 6, 7, and 8 belong to Type IV isoprostanes.

We show in Scheme 2, a detailed analysis of the steps leading to the generation of isoprostanes of Type I from AA by a free-radical peroxidation process. The purpose of this exercise is to help us predict and evaluate the probability of which stereo- and regioisomers are formed in vivo.

We report here the first proof of the existence in vivo of $IPF_{2\alpha}$ - I^{14} 25, an isoprostane of Type I 9, validating our proposal as to the existence of several classes of isoprostanes. This has been achieved by a two-step strategy involving the first total synthesis of $IPF_{2\alpha}$ -I 25 and its identification in human urine.

The synthesis of IPF_{2α}-I 25 is shown in Scheme 3. The deoxygenation of diacetonide-D-glucose 29 was achieved by first preparing the xanthate derivative in 98% yield using sodium hydride, carbon disulfide and methyl iodide, and then treating it with tri-n-butyltin hydride to give 3-deoxydiacetonide-D-glucose 30 in 87% yield. The chemoselective cleavage of the 5,6-isopropylidene group in 30 with 30% aqueous acetic acid at room temperature afforded the diol 31 in 80% yield. Treatment of diol 31 with thiocarbonylbis(imidazole) in 1,2-dichloroethane at room temperature gave the thionocarbonate derivative 32 in 95% yield. Removal of the 1, 2-isopropylidene group with 4% aqueous sulfuric acid in tetrahydrofuran (THF) at reflux temperature gave the epimeric lactols 33 in 85% yield. The Wittig reaction of 33 with methyl(triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate in THF was carried out at room temperature and the resulting crude mixture was treated with t-butyldimethylsilyl chloride in dimethylformamide at 60 °C to give 34 in 71% yield. Finally, the cyclization of 34 was achieved using tri-n-butyltin hydride (2 equiv.) and AIBN (0.5 equiv.) in toluene at reflux temperature to afford the synanti-syn lactone 36 as the major product in 43% isolated yield. The stereoselective formation of the lactone 36 as the major product is probably due to a preferred chair conformation of radical intermediate 35.

The reduction of lactone 36 with DIBAL-H in methylene chloride at -78 °C, followed by acidic work-up, afforded a mixture of lactol epimers 37 in 88% yield, used as such in the next step. The Wittig reaction with commercial hexyltriphenylphosphonium bromide 38 (4 equiv.) and potassium t-butoxide (3.99 equiv.) at -78 °C

Scheme 3. Synthesis of IPF_{2 α}-I 25, (5S,6E,8 β ,9 α ,11 α ,14Z)-5,9,11- trihydroxyprosta-6,14-dien-1-oic acid.

proceeded smoothly to give the cis olefin 39 in 90% yield. The Swern oxidation of the alcohol 39 using oxalyl chloride, DMSO, and triethylamine yielded aldehyde 40 in 94% yield. Horner-Emmons reaction of 40 at -78 °C, to introduce the upper side chain using the anion of β -ketophosphonate 41 generated with sodium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide in THF at room temperature, afforded the enone 42 in 93% yield. The enantioselective reduction of the C_5 keto group in 42 with chiral reducing agent¹⁷ (S)-BINAL-H proceeded well and afforded the desired pure 5(S) derivative 43 in 83% yield. The deprotection of the bis-silyl groups in 43 was carried out using tetrabutylammonium fluoride in THF at room temperature and the crude product was treated with diazomethane to give the lactone 44 and the methyl ester 45. The mixture of 44 and 45 can be separated by flash column chromatography to afford the pure compounds. Finally, the basic hydrolysis of 44 and 45 with aqueous potassium hydroxide in dioxane at room temperature yielded the desired IPF2 α -1 25 in 98% yield. ¹⁸

A urine sample from normal volunteers was collected and prepared for GC-MS analysis as described

previously. The TBDMS-pentafluorobenzyl ester (PFB) of the urinary sample was prepared, as well as the tris-TBDMS-PFB derivative of synthetic IPF2a-I, 8-epi-PGF2a, and 18O2 8-epi-PGF2a, used as the internal standard. The retention time of the internal control was 19.655 min. The new IPF2a-I peak appears at retention time 19.356 min. This peak was identified by comigration with authentic IPF20-I 25.

In addition, we converted the urinary IPF2a-I to its 6-membered-ring lactone and confirmed its identity by comparison with the synthetic lactone 44 in the following manner. We treated the urinary mixture containing IPF₂₀. I with excess dicyclohexylcarbodiimide. The urinary lactone was purified on TLC using the synthetic lactone 44 as visualization standard. The urinary lactone was isolated, hydrolyzed with KOH/water and the reaction mixture acidified, extracted with ethyl acetate and the solvent evaporated. The GC-MS of the tris-TBDMS-PFB ester of the residue was identical to the IPF201-I derivative obtained from the synthetic lactone 44 submitted to the same procedure.

Identification of the new isoprostane, IPF_{2 α}-I 25, in biological fluids is a significant step in the effort to evaluate the free-radical-initiated biochemical pathway in disease states.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We wish to thank the NiH for support under Grant DK-44730 (J. R.), SCOR Grant HL 54500 (G. A. F.), and the NSF for an AMX-360 NMR instrument (Grant CHE-90-13145), and the Turkish Ministry of Education for the doctoral fellowship to M. A.

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- Assumptions we used to name this isoprostane: IP = isoprostane; $F_{\alpha} = two hydroxyls on the ring with the stereochemistry$ shown; 2 = two double bonds. The structure as shown provides the basis for naming all isoprostanes of Type I, e.g. the epimer at C5 in IPF2a-I will be called 5-epi-IPF2a-I.
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- Noyori, R.; Tomino, I.; Tanimoto, Y.; Nishizawa, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 6709. Spectral data for the IPF₂₀-I 25: ¹H NMR (CD₃COCD₃) 8 5.58-5.48 (m, 2H, C₇-H, C₆-H), 5.46 (m, 2H, C₁₄-H, C₁₅-H). H), 4.05 (m, 1H, C5-H), 3.97 (m, 1H, C9-H), 3.88 (m, 1H, C11-H), 2.68 (m, 1H, C8-H), 2.4 (q, J = 7.3 and 14.3 Hz, 1H, C₁₀-H), 2.3 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, C₂-H₂), 2.17-195 (m, 5H, C₁₂-H, C₃-H₂, C₁₃-H₂), 1.78-1.6 (m, 2H, C₁₀-H, C₄-H), 1.6-1.48 (m, 3H, C₄-H, C₁₆-H₂), 1.4-1.26 (m, 6H, C₁₇-H₂, C₁₈-H₂, C₁₉-H₂), 0.9 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, C₂₀-H). ¹³C NMR (CD₃COCD₃) δ 174.8, 136.7, 130.9, 129.8, 129.6, 76.2, 76.1, 72.4, 53.7, 51.5, 44.0, 37.9, 34.2, 32.3, 30.2, 29.3, 27.2, 23.3, 22.0, 14.4. HRFAB MS m/z calc for (M+Na)+ 377.2304, found 377,2293.

(Received in USA 23 April 1996; revised 8 May 1996; accepted 10 May 1996)